

(a) comparing a module of outdated information stored in memory of the first computer to a module of updated information stored in memory of the second computer, wherein the module of outdated information includes a plurality of module blocks at least one of which contains outdated information, and wherein the module of updated information includes a plurality of module blocks at least one of which contains updated information and corresponds to the at least one module block of outdated information;

(b) downloading via the common communications channel the at least one module block of updated information from the second computer to the first computer; and

(c) replacing the at least one module block containing outdated information with the at least one module block containing updated information which was downloaded via the common communications channel.

B3 ¹⁸ 13. (Amended) The method of Claim ¹⁸ 12, wherein comparing the module of outdated information stored in memory of the first computer to the module of updated information stored in memory of the second computer comprises comparing each module block of outdated information to a corresponding module block of updated information to identify the at least one module block containing updated information.

B4 ¹⁹ 14. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim ¹⁹ 13, wherein comparing each module block of outdated information to a corresponding module block of updated information identifies a plurality of module blocks in the updated module containing updated information, wherein the plurality of module blocks containing updated information are downloaded via the common communications channel from the second computer to the first computer, and wherein the module blocks containing outdated information are replaced with the plurality of module blocks containing updated information.

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15. (Twice Amended) A method for updating information stored in memory of a subscribing computer connected to a publishing computer via a common communications channel, the method comprising:

(a) subscribing to published information stored in memory of the publishing computer;

(b) comparing the information stored in memory of the subscribing computer to the published information stored in memory of the publishing computer;

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(c) responsive to the published information stored in memory of the publishing computer having been changed from the information stored in memory of the subscribing computer, identifying which published information stored in memory of the publishing computer has been changed;

(d) downloading from the publishing computer to the subscribing computer via the common communications channel only that published information which has changed from the information stored in the memory of the subscribing computer; and

(e) updating the information stored in memory of the subscribing computer only with that published information which has changed and has been downloaded from the publishing computer.

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16. (Twice Amended) A method of updating a plurality of user modules of information via a common communications channel interconnecting a host computer and a user computer, the user computer having a user memory for storing user modules, each user module including a plurality of user module blocks, the host computer having a host memory for storing host modules, each host module including a plurality of module blocks, the method comprising:

(a) identifying a first user module stored in user memory, wherein at least one first user module block of the first user module comprises a second user module of information;

(b) identifying a first host module stored in host memory that corresponds to the first user module, wherein each first host module block corresponds to a first user module block, wherein at least one first host module block comprises a second host module of information, and wherein the second host module corresponds to the second user module;

(c) comparing the first host module to the first user module to determine if the first host module contains more recent information;

(d) if the first host module contains more recent information, comparing each first host module block to the corresponding first user module block to determine if the first host module block contains more recent information than the corresponding first user module block;

(e) if the first host module block comprises a second host module of information, comparing each second host module block to the corresponding second user module block to determine if the second host module block contains more recent information than the corresponding second user module block;

(f) downloading via the common communications channel, each host module block containing more recent information into user memory; and

(g) updating each corresponding user module block with the corresponding downloaded host module block.

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B5 17. (Amended) The method of Claim ¹⁸12, further comprising repeating (a) through (c) for each module of outdated information stored in the first computer.

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B6 20. (Amended) The method of Claim ¹⁸12, further comprising:

(a) identifying an nth module of updated information stored in memory of an nth computer;

(b) comparing the nth module of updated information to the module of outdated information stored in the memory of the first computer; and

(c) if the nth module contains any updated nth module blocks, downloading only the updated nth module blocks and updating the first computer with the updated nth module blocks downloaded from the nth computer.

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33. (Amended) The method of Claim 15, further comprising:

B7 (a) identifying an nth publishing computer connected to the subscribing computer via the common communications channel;

(b) subscribing to published information stored in memory of the nth publishing computer;

(c) comparing the information stored in memory of the subscribing computer to the published information stored in memory of the nth publishing computer;

(d) responsive to the published information stored in memory of the nth publishing computer having been changed from the information stored in memory of the subscribing computer, identifying which published information stored in memory of the nth publishing computer has been changed;

(e) downloading from the nth publishing computer to the subscribing computer via the common communications channel only that published information which has changed from the information stored in the memory of the subscribing computer; and

(f) updating the information stored in memory of the subscribing computer only with that published information which has changed and has been downloaded from the nth publishing computer.